



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/537,365	06/02/2005	Dieter Goldbach	05-364	2658
34704 7590 05/12/2009 BACHMAN & LAPOINTE, P.C. 900 CHAPEL STREET SUITE 1201 NEW HAVEN, CT 06510				
EXAMINER				
HSIAO, JAMES K				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
3657				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
05/12/2009		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/537,365

Applicant(s)

GOLDBACH ET AL.

Examiner

JAMES K. HSIAO

Art Unit

3657

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 January 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 39-51 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 39-51 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/CDC)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 39-51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Krupka (US-3982612) in view of Whitworth (US-1576811).

Regarding claims 39, 43-45, 47 and 48, Krupka discloses a brake pad having a lining support (1) formed of a first material (col. 1, line 55) selected from a group of steel or titanium, a friction lining having a surface (2), at least one stud (7) of a second material, wherein the stud passes through a hole in the friction lining up to the lining surface (fig 2), wherein the stud abrades with the friction lining during braking (fig 2).

Krupka lacks to disclose the use of a non ferrous metal as the second material. Whitworth teaches a material of a soft brass material (20). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the brake lining of Krupka with the soft brass of Whitworth because attaching the brass studs to a harder material makes a permanent and satisfactory welded joint with the steel of a lining support (col. 2, lines 81-87).

Regarding claims 40, 41, 45, 46, 48 and 49 Krupka discloses that the studs are welded (col. 2, lines 31-43).

Regarding claims 40, 41, 45, 46, 48 and 49 , Whitworth also teaches a method for attachment of studs (40) to a lining support (14)'comprising forming the studs from a soft brass material and the lining support from a harder material. (Fig 7-9) It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to attach brass studs to a harder material since brass makes a permanent and satisfactory welded joint with the steel of the lining support as taught by Whitworth. (Column 2, lines 81-87)

Regarding claim 50, Krupka and Whitworth do not specify the use of a brass that is MS 60. MS 60 is a well known type of brass and is merely a design choice.

Regarding claim 51, it is inherent that a length and diameter are selected when designing and manufacturing a stud.

3. Claim 42 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Krupka (US-3982612) in view of Hoffrichter et al. (US-6851527).

Regarding claim 42, Krupka lacks a layer in between the lining and the lining support. Hoffrichter teaches a layer in between the lining and the lining support (4).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the brake pad of Krupka with layer of Hoffrichter in order to provide a damping layer in the braking pad.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 39-51 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAMES K. HSIAO whose telephone number is (571)272-6259. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Siconolfi can be reached on 571-272-7124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JKH

/Robert A. Siconolfi/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
Unit 3657